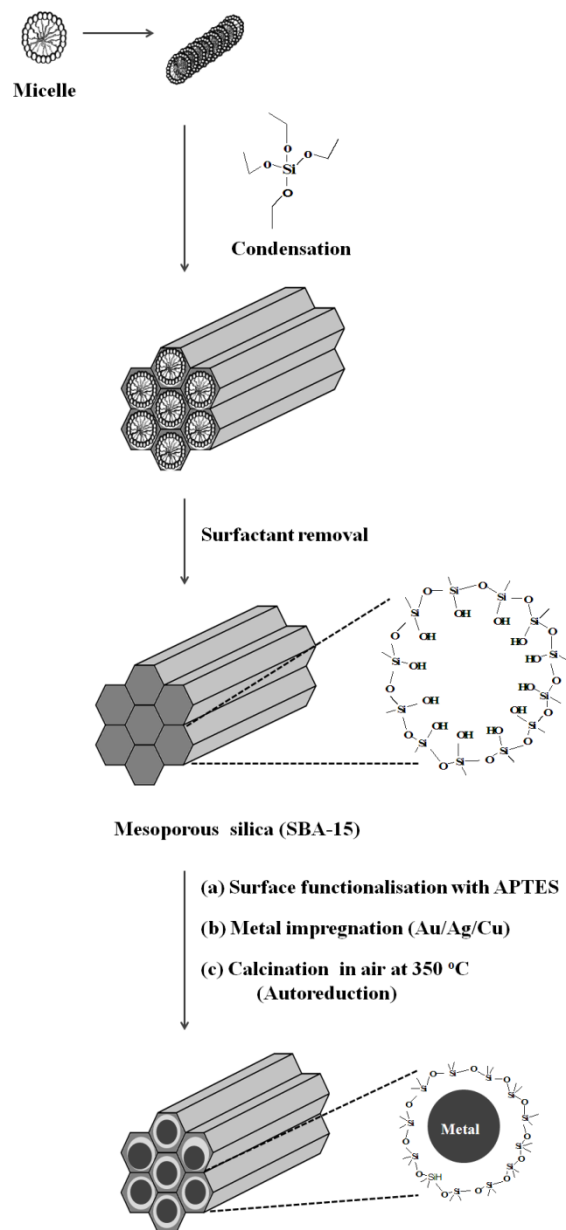


Supporting information

Title: Highly dispersed Au, Ag and Cu nanoparticles into mesoporous SBA-15 for highly selective catalytic reduction of nitroaromatics

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Scheme 1 Synthetic procedure for the formation of noble metal (Au, Ag and Cu) incorporated mesoporous SBA-15 catalysts.

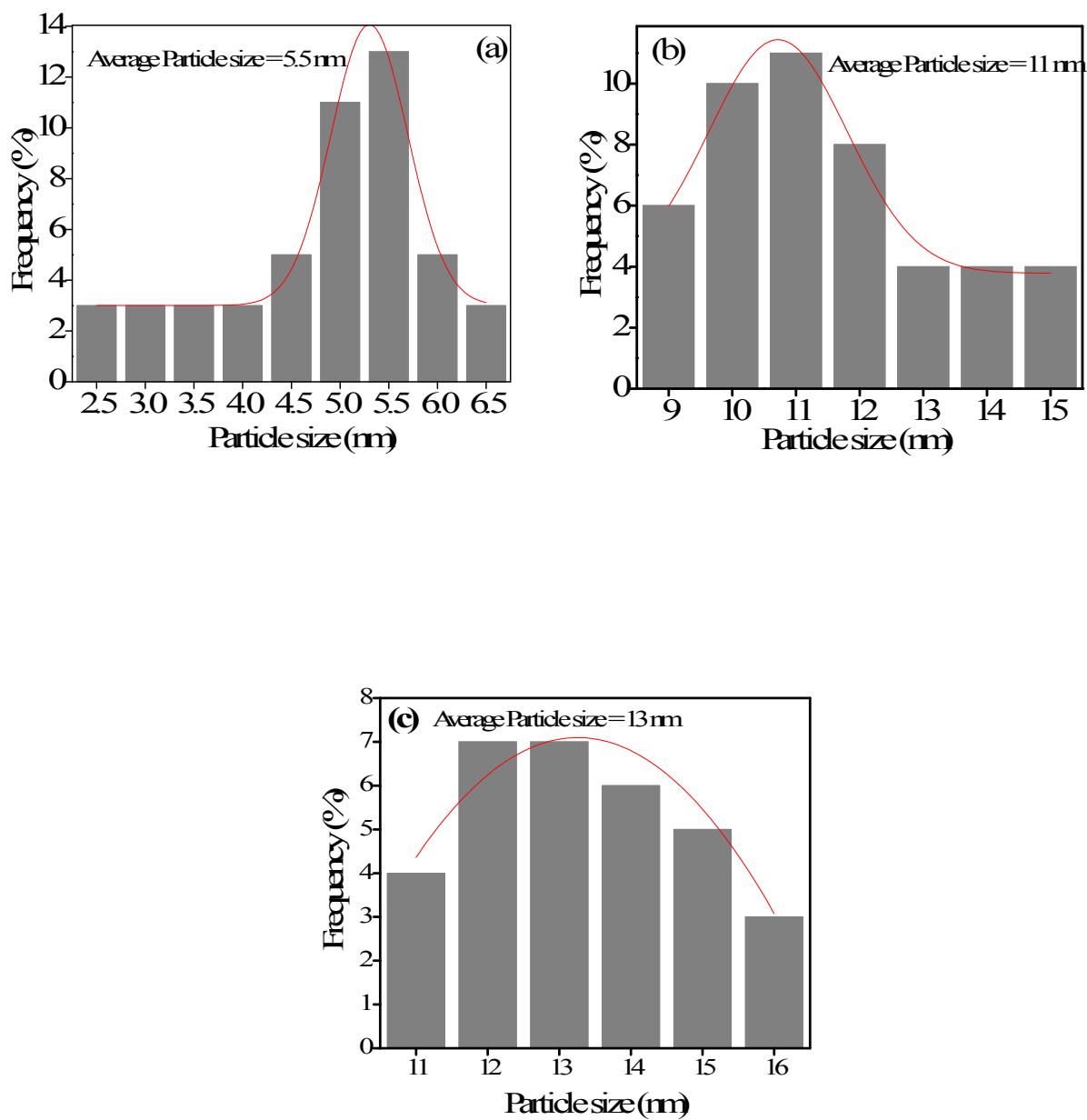


Figure 1. Particle size histograms of (a) Au/ap-SBA-15, (b) Ag/ap-SBA-15 and (c) Cu/ap-SBA-15 catalysts.

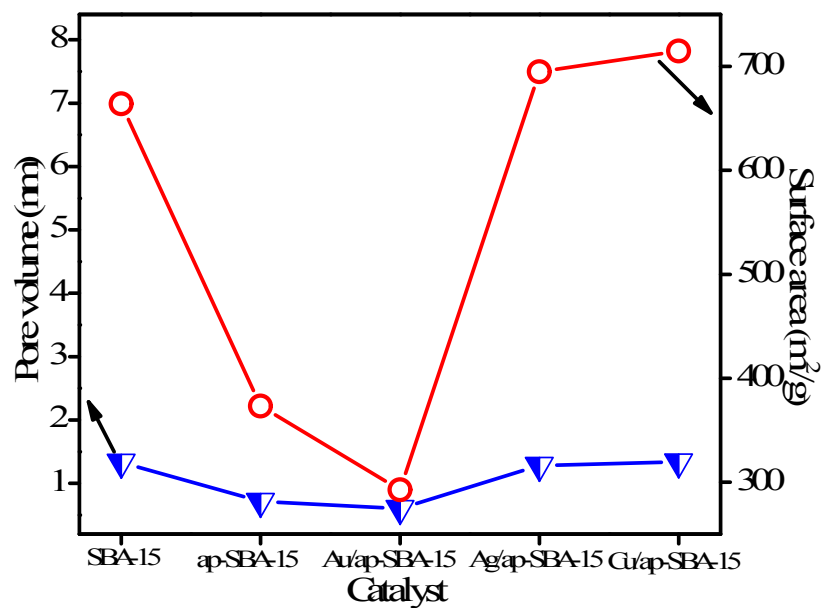


Figure 2. Textural parameter distribution of M/ap-SBA-15 catalysts.

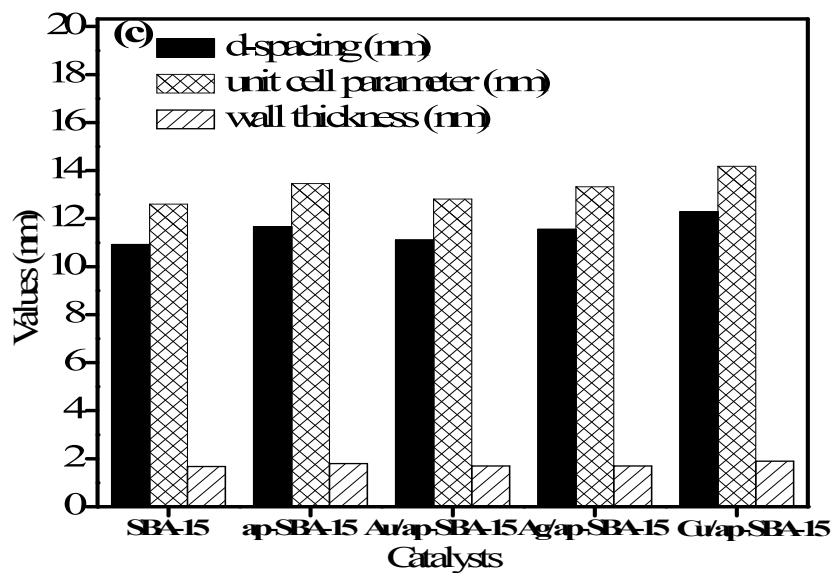


Figure 3. Structural parameter distribution of M /ap-SBA-15 catalysts.

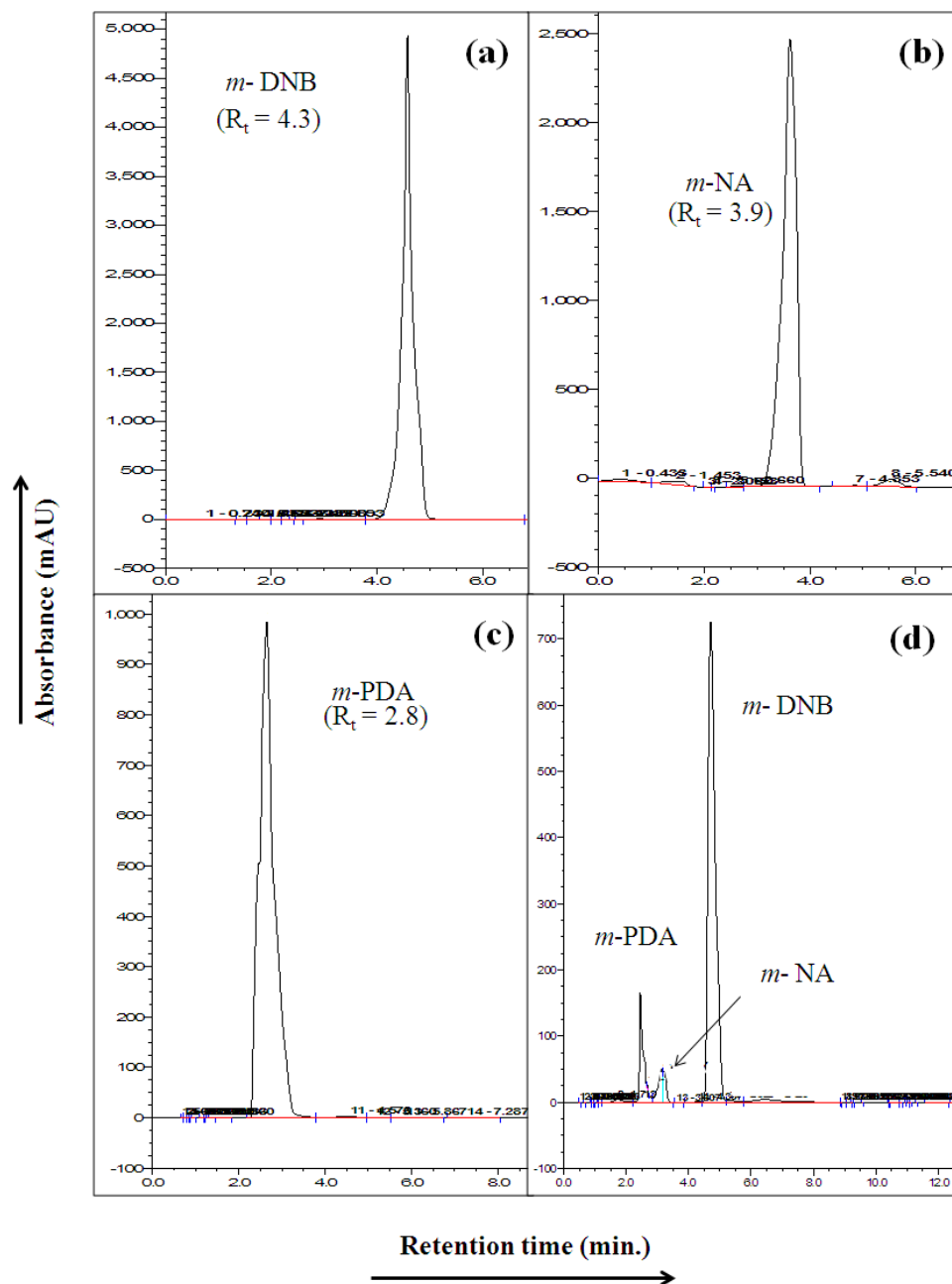


Figure 4. HPLC chromatograms of 5 mM authentic samples of (a) *m*-DNB (b) *m*-NA and (c) *m*-PDA and (d) HPLC chromatogram of the reaction mixture at 5 min. interval catalysed by Au/ap-SBA-15 catalyst.

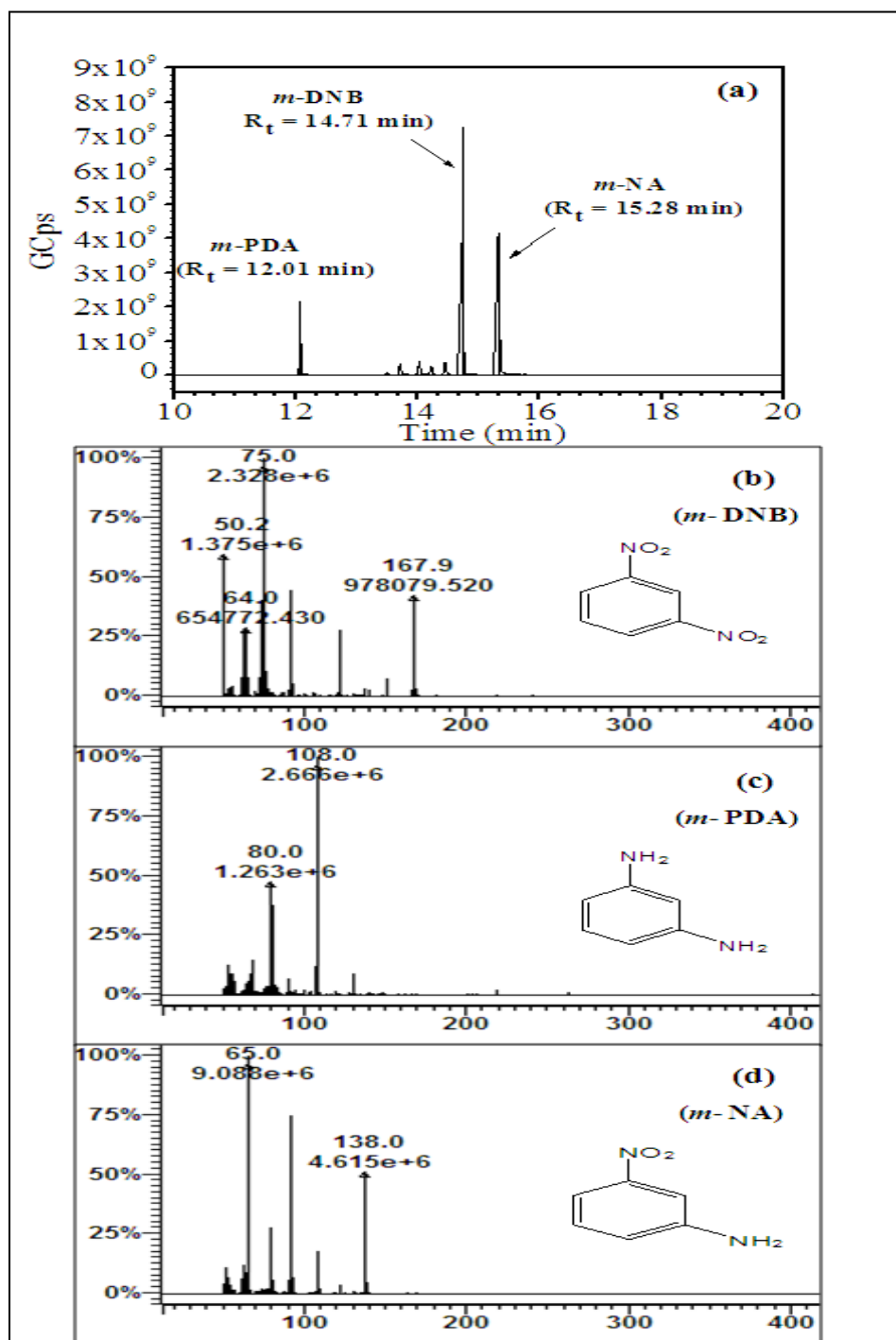


Figure 5. (a) GC of reaction mixture at 10 min. interval for the reduction of m-DNB and mass spectra of (b) *m*-DNB , (c) *m*-PDA and (d) *m*-NA respectively.

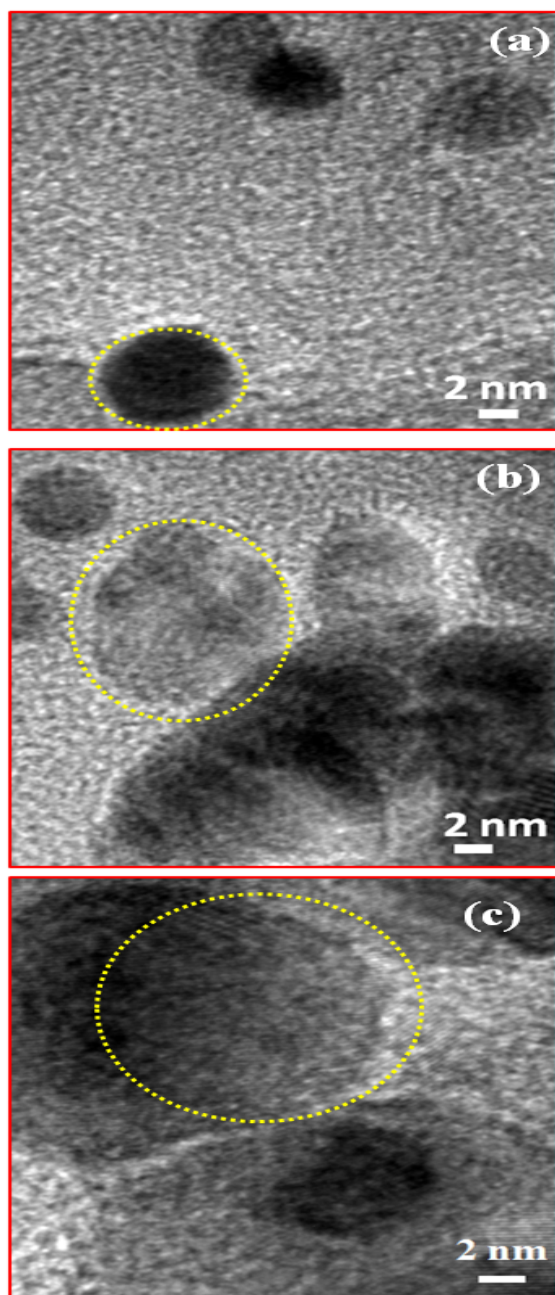


Figure 6. HR-TEM image of (a) Au/ap-SBA-15, (b) Ag/ap-SBA-15 and (c) Cu/ap-SBA-15 catalysts.

